



**Montana Department of  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

**Brian Schweitzer, Governor**

P.O. Box 200901 • Helena, MT 59620-0901 • (406) 444-2544 • [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov)

**November 17, 2008**

Newspaper: Helena Independent Record

**RE: Application for an Openpit Operating Permit for a Quarry Site in Lewis and Clark County**

Dear Editor:

Please place the following notice in the legal publication section of your Sunday newspaper:

**Legal Notice**

Notice of Availability of a Draft Checklist Environmental Assessment (CEA) for an Application for an Operating Permit (pursuant to the Metal Mine Reclamation Act, Section 82-4-353 (1), MCA).

Valley Sand and Gravel, LLC. (VSG) located at 7510 Applegate Drive, Helena, MT. 59602 filed an application on June 19, 2007 for an Operating Permit from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Environmental Management Bureau in Helena. The application was later revised on February 13, 2008 and again on July 21, 2008.

The proposed site is about 11 miles north of Helena, MT on private land in portions of Section 26 and 35, Township 12 North, Range 4 West in Lewis and Clark County, about one mile northwest of the intersection of Lincoln Road and Applegate Drive. Existing roads would be used to access the proposed quarry site. The site would consist of a total of about 371 acres of which no more than 30 acres would be disturbed at any one time.

The quarry would be excavated using heavy equipment such as excavators, loaders, and dozers, and make use of screening equipment. Some blasting may occur. The excavated areas would be sloped and contoured to blend in with the surrounding areas. Mining, screening, or crushing operations would take place during daylight hours from 8 AM to 5 PM Monday through Friday and from 8 AM to 4 PM on Saturday and/or Sunday during those months during which children are not attending public schools. Operating hours would change to 8 AM to 8 PM from Monday through Friday and 8 AM to 4 PM on Saturday and/or Sunday during the remaining months.

An operating permit may be issued once the application is complete, an environmental analysis is performed, and the reclamation bond has been posted to ensure reclamation

after completion of the rock excavation. If VSG develops additional lease agreements on other sites in the future, they would have to apply for an amendment or revision to the operating permit.

Copies of the Draft CEA can be obtained by writing DEQ, Environmental Management Bureau, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620, c/o Herb Rolfes, or calling (406) 444-3841; or sending email addressed to [hrolfes@mt.gov](mailto:hrolfes@mt.gov). The Draft CEA will also be posted on the DEQ web page: [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov). Public comments concerning the adequacy and accuracy of the Draft CEA will be accepted until December 12, 2008.

For information on the project and to submit comments on the proposal, contact:

Herb Rolfes  
Operating Permit Section Supervisor  
Environmental Management Bureau  
Department of Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 2000901  
Helena, MT 59620-0901  
(406) 444-3841 or e-mail at [hrolfes@mt.gov](mailto:hrolfes@mt.gov)

---

To expedite payment, please send your invoice, original tear sheet, and affidavit of publication to DEQ at the address above to the attention of **Laura Turner**. Please indicate that the bill applies to Doc # EMB 5039-0083. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Herb Rolfes  
Hard Rock Section Supervisor  
Hard Rock Operating Permit Section  
Environmental Management Bureau  
Phone (406) 444-3841  
Fax (406) 444-1499  
[hrolfes@mt.gov](mailto:hrolfes@mt.gov)